GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1444
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2003
BENAMI PETROL PUMPS AND LPG AGENCIES
PARSURAM MAJHI;RATTAN LAL KATARIA

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that some powerful people are able to get Benami Petrol Pumps, LPG Agencies and Kerosene Agencies which were allotted to SC/ST people;

(b) if so, the details of such cases came to the notice of the Government for the last three years;

(c) the action taken against such persons;

(d) whether the Government have made any new policy that nobody can misuse the provision of reservation for SC/ST in these agencies; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

(a) to (e): Award of dealerships/ distributorships to the selected candidates involves a process which takes guard against the dealerships/ distributorships going into the hands of unauthorized persons. In addition, regular inspection of the dealerships/ distributorships by officers of the oil marketing companies (OMCs) concerned is also resorted to in order to ensure, among other things, that no unauthorized persons gain control of the dealerships/ distributorships so allotted to persons of all categories, including the Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe category.

Inspite of this, the OMCs come across, from time to time, cases of dealerships/ distributorships suspected to be involved in benami operations. Such cases are investigated and action is taken by the OMCs against such dealerships/ distributorships in accordance with the dealership/ distributorship agreements.